

## **Potomac Consolidated TRACON Community Meetings**

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), in conjunction with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, will host three community meetings in late October and early November. The meetings will address the FAA's proposed Potomac Consolidated Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) Project. A TRACON provides radar air traffic control services to aircraft operating beyond 5 miles and generally within 50 miles of an airport. The Potomac TRACON Project proposes to consolidate four existing TRACONs located at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Dulles International Airport and Andrews Air Force Base into one new facility.

In addition to the proposed infrastructure improvements, as a second phase effort, the Potomac TRACON Project will examine possible changes to aircraft routes and altitudes in an area roughly 75 miles around Washington, DC. The purpose of this action is to determine if any new air traffic control procedures can be implemented to take advantage of the TRACON facility consolidation, improved aircraft performance, and new air traffic control technologies. This second phase effort is called the Potomac Airspace Study.

FAA is currently preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess potential impacts of the proposed TRACON consolidation and possible follow-on changes to airspace. Impacts of physical consolidation of the four TRACONs, including alternative building locations, will be assessed. FAA will also evaluate, at a macro level, potential airspace changes around the Baltimore-Washington area. The initial EIS will not address specific changes to individual aircraft routes, but will address concepts that could be used in designing new routes. The FAA expects to publish a Draft EIS in January 1999 and reach decisions on consolidation and whether to undertake airspace redesign in August 1999.

If a decision is made to redesign the local area airspace, FAA anticipates starting a second EIS (Airspace EIS) in fall 1999 to assess impacts of changes to individual aircraft routes and altitudes. This EIS will evaluate alternatives to air traffic control routes and procedures beyond the immediate airport area. Changes to existing take-off and/or landing noise abatement procedures are not being considered.

Community meetings will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. as follows: (directions on reverse side)

- October 27, 1998 – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC
- October 28, 1998 – Montgomery County Council, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD
- November 12, 1998 – National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 4301 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA

The meetings will begin with a presentation by the FAA on the Potomac Project. There will then be an opportunity to informally ask questions and discuss the project with FAA representatives.

For questions, contact Joe Champley at (800) 762-9531 or [joe.champley@faa.dot.gov](mailto:joe.champley@faa.dot.gov).

## **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC**

### **FROM RAIL (VRE, MARC, and METRO):**

Take VRE's Manassas or Fredericksburg lines or Metro's Red Line to Union Station. MARC riders can transfer to Metro at several stations (e.g., on the Red Line at Rockville and Silver Spring) and then proceed to Union Station. From the Union Station north exit (First St. NE), turn right. Go two blocks and turn left onto G Place. 777 North Capitol St. is at the end of the block (corner of G Place and North Capitol).

### **FROM MARYLAND:**

From New York Avenue, turn left on First St. NE. 777 North Capitol St. garage entrance is the first right after the H St. overpass. Go through tunnel to garage entrance.

From I-270, take I-495 West to the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia. Take the Parkway to I-395 North and follow the directions from the 14th St. Bridge, below.

From Central Ave., take East Capitol St. Turn right on Massachusetts Ave. Turn right at North Capitol St. (just past Union Station). Go two blocks and turn right on G Place. At end of block, turn left on First St. NE. 777 North Capitol St. garage entrance is the last left before the H St. overpass. Go through tunnel to garage entrance.

From Pennsylvania Ave. SE, turn right on 2nd St. Turn left on Massachusetts Ave. Turn right at North Capitol St. (just past Union Station). Go two blocks and turn right on G Place. At end of block, turn left on First St. NE. 777 North Capitol St. garage entrance is the last left before the H St. overpass. Go through tunnel to garage entrance.

### **FROM VIRGINIA:**

From the 14th St. Bridge, follow signs to I-395. Take ramp marked I-395 - U.S. Capitol. Move to the right in the tunnel and take the Massachusetts Ave. exit. Turn right on Massachusetts. Turn left at North Capitol St. Go two blocks and turn right on G Place. At end of block, turn left on First St. NE. 777 North Capitol St. garage entrance is the last left before the H St. overpass. Go through tunnel to garage entrance. From I-66, take Route 110 to I-395 North and follow directions from the 14th St. Bridge, above.

## **Montgomery County Council Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD**

Building is located at the corner of Jefferson St. (Route 28) and Maryland Ave. in Rockville. Parking is available in the garage next to the building; enter the garage off Fleet Street. Enter the building through the entrance next to the fishpond. Go to the third floor County Council Hearing Room.

## **National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 4301 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA**

Building is located on Wilson Blvd. at the corner of Wilson Blvd. and Taylor St. in the Ballston area opposite the Ballston Mall. Parking is available in the garage under the building. Enter off Taylor St. Ballston Metro stop is approximately two blocks away. Meeting will be in the first floor Conference Center.

